From: Daniel Rodney
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:04pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ.

I am a concerned computer user. I teach computer graphics software in fact. I am very familiar with Macs and Windows and want to express my concern about the strength of the decision about Microsoft. I feel that they have severely hurt and continue to hurt the computer industry. I think that their practices continue to hurt users and only are chosen because they can expand MS's monopoly. Take the WindowXP activation system. Users are not helped by this... their computers can be rendered useless if activation can't properly take place. Also, that Windows XP leaves out Java support, unless the user downloads it, is purely a MS tactic to edge out Java because it's not theirs. Sure it doesn't specifically attack it since it's POSSIBLE to use Java, but the problem is that many users don't know they should, or how to, so in the end, the ignorant user is hurt and for what good? So that MS can better push their own solution? The user is hurt because Java is a great platform INDEPENDENT choice. While I don't know that much about the settlement, please understand that it could not be too harsh on MS in my opinion. MS needs to be penalized for their past practices and current. They need to be stopped or I fear for how computers are heading because of their self serving choices.

Ultimately this is a decision that affects everyone's daily life in some way. Computers run our life... and when a moralless self serving computer company that will do ANYTHING is can get away with is running the show... it's a scary thing. Please do the right thing and STOP them once and for all. Prevent them from continuing to do it and make sure they pay for their past bad practices.

Dan

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